

APPENDIX A

1. (Amended) A method for delivering radiation therapy to a patient during suspended ventilation, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a specific air flow direction and lung volume;

suspending patient ventilation at said specific air flow direction and lung volume utilizing an apparatus comprising a ventilator assembly having a first selectively operable valve adapted to control inhalation of the patient and a second selectively operable valve adapted to control exhalation of the patient; and

administering radiation therapy during the suspension of patient ventilation.

3. (Amended) The method for [delivery] delivering radiation therapy to a patient during suspended ventilation according to Claim 1, the method including the step of utilizing a computer control to provide a measure of the cyclical expiration and inhalation cycle of the patient.

4. (Amended) The method for [delivery] delivering radiation therapy to a patient during suspended ventilation according to Claim 2, the method including the step of [operating said one or more air flow valves of said mouthpiece] closing said first and said second selectively operable valves to suspend the patient's breathing at a desired point.

6. (Amended) The method for [delivery] delivering radiation therapy to a patient during suspended ventilation according to Claim 1, the method including repeating said step of suspending patient ventilation at said specific air flow direction

and lung volume as necessary to administer repeated radiation doses.

7. (Amended) The method for [delivery] delivering radiation therapy to a patient during suspended ventilation according to Claim 1, the method including undertaking CT planning and treatment at a reproducible ventilatory phase.

8. (Amended) The method for [delivery] delivering radiation therapy to a patient during suspended ventilation according to Claim 1, the method including the step of applying to the patient a mechanical device for attachment to the patient's nose for temporarily halting air passage therethrough.

9. (Amended) The method for [delivery] delivering radiation therapy to a patient during suspended ventilation according to Claim 1, the method including the steps of acquiring CT scans at different respiratory phases.

10. (Amended) A method for establishing breath-holding reproducibility in a patient for the delivery of radiation therapy, the method comprising the steps of:

identifying a lung volume;

suspending patient ventilation at said lung volume utilizing an apparatus comprising a ventilator assembly having a first selectively operable valve adapted to control inhalation of the patient and a second selectively operable valve adapted to control exhalation of the patient; and

administering radiation therapy during the suspension of patient ventilation.

12. (Amended) The method for establishing breath-holding reproducibility in a patient for the delivery of radiation therapy according to Claim 11, the method including the step of [operating said one or more air flow valves of said mouthpiece] closing said first and said second selectively operable valves to suspend the patient's breathing at a desired point.

15. (Amended) An apparatus for suspending ventilation in a patient and delivering radiation therapy to the patient during suspended ventilation, the apparatus comprising:

an apparatus for identifying a specific air flow direction and lung volume of the patient;

an apparatus for suspending patient ventilation at said specific air flow direction and lung volume, said apparatus for suspending patient ventilation including a ventilator assembly having a first selectively operable valve adapted to control inhalation of the patient and a second selectively operable valve adapted to control exhalation of the patient; and

an apparatus for administering radiation therapy during the suspension of patient ventilation.